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TELEVISION CONFERENCE IN KIEV;  
 GROWTH OF USSR BROADCASTING FACILITIES

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

Television Conference in Kiev

A scientific and technical conference on television broadcasting was held in Kiev in July 1953; it was called by the All-Union Scientific and Technical Society of Radio Engineering and Electric Communications imeni A. S. Popov and the Kiev television center. Those participating in the conference heard speeches on the operation of the Moscow, Leningrad, and Kiev television centers, and on the development of television broadcasting in general.(1)

Speeches were given at the conference on three technical aspects of television: (a) the present status of television engineering and new developments in the field; (b) how to increase the transmission radius of a television transmitter; and (c) operation of television centers.(2)

Television in the Fifth Five-Year Plan

The directives of the 19th Party Congress on the Fifth Five-Year Plan for 1951 - 1955 call for an approximate doubling of the sale of television sets and radios.

The former Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry did not produce enough television sets, and the mass production of new models of inexpensive television sets has not yet started. Models of television sets for mass production

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which were given the prize last year at the contest sponsored by the Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry are not yet in production, and the radio plants still produce the KVN-49, an old-type set which does not satisfy consumers. This set is to be taken out of production in 1953.

Wired television centers are to be built, but up to the present there are only a few; the Ministry of Communications and the Ministry of Electric Power Stations and Electrical Industry have been doing nothing in this field. It is considered very important to speed up the work in creating a system of wired television broadcasting centers. Such a system would increase television reception networks at a low cost.

It is planned to produce standard collective antennas, but up to the present they are not widely used.

The main task for research workers, engineers, and radio amateurs is to increase the reception distance for television signals. At present, two methods of solving this problem are contemplated: radio relay and coaxial cable relay.

Not enough spare parts are available for repair, and the quality of repair work is very low in Moscow, Leningrad, and Kiev. Conditions are even worse in outlying areas.(2)

Television Cable

In May 1953, work was continuing on the organization of the transmission of television programs by cable so that programs could be transmitted between Moscow, Kiev, and Leningrad.(3)

Television Facilities in Specific Areas

Radio amateurs of Dosaaf, with the help of local organizations, have been building amateur television stations in Khar'kov, Riga, Sverdlovsk, Tallin, Tomsk, and other cities.(4)

In May 1953, a group of radio amateurs of the Dosaaf radio club in Gor'kiy were equipping a television center there. All the initial work had been done and they were transmitting sounds for experimental purposes. The transmitter has a transmission radius of 50 kilometers.(5)

In June 1953, 1,200 new television sets were installed in Kiyevskaya Oblast, Ukrainian SSR. At that time there were about 9,000 television sets in private use in the oblast. Within a short time the Kiev television station was expected to have a new apparatus which would allow the transmission of programs directly from theaters, stadiums, and parks.(6) At Zhitomir, in autumn 1952, a group of engineers and technicians of the Kiyevskaya Oblast radio network carried on experimental reception of broadcasts from the Kiev television center with the Leningrad T-2 television set. By April 1953, regular reception of television programs had been worked out, and the programs were of very good quality. There are now some television sets in Zhitomir and in Zhitomirskiy Rayon.(7)

In the first years of the Fifth Five-Year Plan, the Leningrad Television Station was converted to the standard all-union norm of a 625 line picture.(8)

In May 1953, there were 20,000 television sets in Moskovskaya Oblast.(9) In the same month, a television broadcast could be received 118 kilometers from Moscow by using a special television set made by a radio amateur and operating on a 6-volt storage battery charged by a wind driven generator.(10)

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With the Leningrad T-2 television set, Moscow television programs could be received 100 kilometers from Moscow in September 1953, but radio amateurs working on the problem could receive Moscow programs at an even greater distance.(2) The number of television sets in villages around Moscow almost tripled between May 1952 and April 1953. In May 1953, there were 1,300 sets in Ramenskiy Rayon, more than 2,000 Ukhtomskiy Rayon, and more than 3,000 in Mystishchinskiy Rayon.(11) Last year, there were no television sets in Ozery, but by July 1953 six television sets had been installed there.(12)

A wired television center is in operation in Kalinin. It regularly transmits television broadcasts from the Moscow television center by a wide-band coaxial cable line. This center was developed and built by the laboratory of the Moscow Urban Radio Broadcasting Network under the Ministry of Communications.(2)

In 1951, radio amateurs in Sverdlovsk decided to build an amateur television center. On 17 April 1953, the first television program in Sverdlovsk was viewed in the radio club there.(13) The technical characteristics of the Sverdlovsk station are considerably better than those of the Khar'kov station. It has a transmission radius of nearly 60 kilometers and the picture clarity is nearly as good as that of Moscow television. As of May - June 1953, Dosaaf amateurs intended to begin regular transmission in the near future; Sverdlovsk radio listeners had undertaken to procure television receivers from Moscow and had begun to erect receiving antennas on rooftops. Engineer K. V. Nikul'skiy stated that the amateurs of Dosaaf wished to make the Sverdlovsk station a testing center and would work toward extending the transmission radius and aiding scientists in solving the color television problem.(14)

By May 1953, the small television center of the Tomsk Polytechnic Institute had begun experimental television broadcasts for the first time in Siberia.(4)

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3. Moscow, Pravda, 7 May 53
4. Radio, No 5, May 53
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6. Moscow, Komsomol'skaya Pravda, 7 Jul 53
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9. Moscow, Moskovskaya Pravda, 7 May 53
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11. Komsomol'skaya Pravda, 6 May 53
12. Moskovskaya Pravda, 24 July 53
13. Trud, 18 Apr 53
14. Helsinki, Radioamat88ri, No 3, May - Jun 53

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